MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): No.

Filling up the vacancy of the Darbar Physician.

388. MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the reason why the post of the Darbar Physician has been held in abeyance; and

(*b*) whether they propose to get the post filled up again?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Because Government placed the administration of the Department under a Board consisting of 2 officials and a non-official as an experimental measure.

(*b*) The matter is under consideration.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): It is stated in the answer that, when the post of Durbar Physician fell vacant last time, Government placed the administration of the Department under a Board of two officials and a non-official, as an experimental measure, and that the continuance or otherwise of the Board is under consideration. May I know whether Government have come to any decision in the matter?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I may remind the member of the announcement, the Chief Secretary made the other day, that Government have decided to abolish the Board.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Who was the senior officer in the Department when the Board was created?

PRESIDENT: That question does not arise.

Promotions of the Senior Assistant Secretary to Government and the Senior District Registrar.

389. MR. R. S. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any grounds exist for overlooking the claims of the senior-most Assistant Secretary to Government and of the senior-most District Registrar for appointment as Secretary to Government and Director of Registration, respectively, in the permanent vacancies that occurred in the said two offices during the current Malabar year?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): For the place of Secretary to Government, Government considered it necessary to appoint an officer with executive experience. Mr. T. K. Madhavan Nayar, a senior officer, was appointed as Director of Registration.

Filling the vacancy of the Sub-Assistant Surgeon in the Ophthalmic Hospital.

390. MR. RAMA VARMA RAJA (*Edavagai*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there was a vacancy in the Ophthalmic Hospital caused by Sub-Assistant Surgeon taking study leave in the month of Mithunam 1107;

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